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No. 4.—Three good 6-room houses on Wells
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7 rooms and bath, nicely located, \$900;
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\$1,100 to build.

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No. 10.—8-room house, Southwest, in
good condition, \$1,000; \$150
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No. 12.—Four houses on best part of Third
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a farm.

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No. 14.—9-room dwelling with modern
improvements on Dale avenue,
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5 ACRES highly improved land, new six room
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113 ACRES of nice level land, twenty-five
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large acres set in trees. Price \$1,150 cash.
This is a fine investment.

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can own a home, you are man enough and have
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Buy now, or you will have something to remem-
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ONE NEW 7-ROOM HOUSE ON SIXTH AVENUE S. W., price, \$1,500; \$100 cash and \$12.50 per month.

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WE are too busy to write a long "ad" and will
just mention a few "GOOD THINGS."

A SNAP—3-room house in best location in
southwest, near Jefferson street, lot 70 feet from
all conveniences. We just got this to-day. Come
and see us at once.

Large 10-room house and basement near the
office. Price \$1,650; \$300 cash, balance \$30 per
month. Rent for \$19 per month.

A dandy little 6-room house on corner lot, 50x
13 feet, in southwest part of the town. Price
\$1,000; \$150 cash, balance \$10 per month.

Jefferson street dwelling near the Episcopal
Church, all conveniences. Price \$3,500.

Fine 8-room house on Tenth avenue s. w.,
bath, hot and cold water, large lot and stable.
Price \$2,000; on easy terms.

Nice 6-room house, convenient to the shops.
Price \$800; \$50 cash, balance \$10 per month.

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A BACHELOR'S INVOCATION.

When all my plans have come to grief
And every bill is due,
And every faith that's worth belief
Has proved itself untrue,
And when, as now, I've flitted been
By every girl I've met,
Ah, then I flee for peace to thee,
My darling cigarette!

Hail, sorceress, whose cloudy spells
About my senses driven
Alone can loose their prison cells
And wait my soul to heaven!
Above all earthly loves, I swear
I hold thee best; and yet,
Would I could see a match for thee,
My darling cigarette!

With lips unstained to thee I bring
A lover's gentle kiss,
And woo thee, see, with this fair ring,
And this, and this, and this.
But ah! the rings no sooner cease
(Inconstant, vain coquette!)
Than, like the rest, thou vanishest
In smoke, my cigarette!

—Cincinnati Commercial Gazette.

LOVE ON A BICYCLE.

BY DAVID A. CURTIS.

[Copyright, 1895, by American Press Association.]

That confounded bicycle stood in the
corner.

All night long I had been riding it in
my dreams. I smiled when I saw it that
morning and said to myself that I did not
believe in dreams.

I had never seen that wheel till the
night before.

Belinda had great esteem for me, as in-
deed was also natural, for I had been a
chum of her father's for many years,
though he was fully forty years my senior,
but I had suspected for some time that she
looked on me rather as an uncle than as a
savior. She thought, as very young peo-
ple are apt to think, that 42 was an ad-
vanced age.

When she had written inviting me to
join her house party at Epton Grove, she
wrote: "By all means bring your wheel,
for we all ride a lot. Even papa says it
makes him feel young again."

It was true that I had studied the theory
of the bicycle thoroughly. In fact, a series
of papers that I had written on the subject
had been greatly admired. They were en-
titled "Hints to Those About to Begin,"
and they were published in a prominent
magazine. I had not, however, attempted
to ride myself, and while I had mastered
all the principles of the mechanism of the
"silent steed" I did not know that wheels
discarded as to their dispositions, and that
inherently vicious.

It was therefore without any serious
misgiving that I purchased a wheel of the
latest pattern and ordered it sent to Epton
Grove by express. It arrived the same
evening that I did.

The Whites were there, and the Grays,
and Miss Uppington, John's sister, whom
I knew only slightly, and Miss Laura Bel-
low, who had been a schoolmate of Belin-
da's, and two young fellows from Harvard,
a Mr. Black and a Mr. Hazard.

"Quite a polychromatic party, isn't it?"
I said by way of an offhand joke after the
introductions were over, for my own name
is Brown. I was always rather neat in my
way of joking.

"That's so," exclaimed Belinda, de-
lightedly clapping her hands. "There's
Black and White and Gray and Brown
here."

"And don't forget Bellow," I said,
bowing gracefully to the young lady of
that name.

They all laughed heartily, especially
Miss Uppington, who was a very pleasing
maiden lady of some 35 years of age.

"Isn't he witty?" I heard her say to John,
not thinking I would hear, and he smiled
and said: "Yes, Brown likes his little
jokes very much."

At supper that night the talk was all
of bicycling, and I was naturally appealed
to a number of times on questions of pos-
ture and pedaling and the like, being re-
cognized as an authority on the subject be-
cause of my articles.

"Did you work out your theories on the
wheel?" asked Mr. Hazard deferentially.

"Oh, certainly," I said.

"I should have thought that you would
have had a good many accidents," he said
in a queer sort of tone.

"I have never met with any accident
while bicycling," I replied very seriously.

"You have been very fortunate," said
John.

"I should think that Mr. Brown was
very skillful rather than fortunate," said
Miss Uppington, and the conversation
changed.

After supper we had music, and later in
the evening, while most of the party sat on
the piazza, John and I went to the smok-
ing room.

"John," I said after we had our pipes
well started, "I am exceedingly gratified
by the opportunity afforded by your kind
hospitality."

"Why, Nathaniel," he said, with great
heartiness, "you know you are always a
welcome guest in my house."

"I thank you earnestly," I replied, "but
this time it is more than a visit that I
have in mind. I want to ask a great favor
—one of the greatest that can be asked."

"It will have to be extraordinary to be
refused," he said, half laughing, but with
the utmost friendliness.

"I want your permission to pay my ad-
dresses to Miss Belinda," I continued.

John dropped his pipe.

"Are you thinking of getting married?"
he exclaimed after he had stared at me
rather impolitely for a moment.

"That would certainly be the inference
from what I just said," I observed stiffly,
for it did not seem exactly complimentary
to me for him to speak in such a fashion.

"Why, of course," said he, with all the
cordiality imaginable. "Excuse me. I
did not misunderstand you. I was only
surprised. I thought you had given up
all idea of marrying years ago."

"On the contrary," was my answer, "I
consider that I have only recently reached
the proper time. I do not believe in mar-
rying till one has an assured fortune and
position."

"Well, well! That's all right," stam-
pered John, a little abashed. Then he
held out his hand. "You have my con-
sent, certainly. I couldn't ask for any-
thing better. Have you spoken to her?"

"Not yet," said I, shaking hands. "I
preferred to speak to you first. I did not
care to hurry matters. You see, she is
rather young and—"

I didn't finish, for John stared again, as
if he thought I was out of my mind, but
all he said was: "She is getting over that
day by day, and I don't believe she consid-
ers herself any too young to marry."

Then he picked up his pipe and filled it
again, while I sat smoking and dreaming
blissfully of the future.

Before I went to my room I broke open
the casing in which my bicycle had been
sent and put the wheel in the corner after
looking it over carefully. For the first
time I felt a doubt as to whether I could

ride it as well as I could tell others how to
do so, and I was somewhat disquieted.

I read over my "Hints to Beginners,"
however, which I carried in my pocket-
book. In an imaginary rehearsal I over-
came all the difficulties of a first trial and
soon composed myself.

I must confess I was a little startled
when the machine, just as I closed the
book, gave a sudden plunge, and lurching
heavily toward me fell over on its side. I
could have sworn that it reared before
plunging, but I instantly realized that
that was impossible. I had not placed it
properly against the wall. Lifting it up,
I braced it with a chair.

There was a chorus of laughter outside,
for the crash had aroused the whole house.

When I turned back, I distinctly saw
that bicycle struggling to get away from
the chair. It had moved several inches, so
I got two more chairs and jammed it upon
three sides. "Now," I exclaimed angrily,
"jump the chairs if you can," and it actu-
ally twisted itself as I let go the last chair.

However, that was the last movement I
perceived, and, as I said, I went to bed and
dreamed about it.

Next morning I was a little late for
breakfast, and I was somewhat surprised
to find that none of the young people was
at the table.

"They all go out at sunrise for an appe-
tito spin, as they call it," explained John,
and I shuddered a little. I hate early ris-
ing.

Presently they all came in, laughing
and chattering like a flock of sparrows,
and the programme for the day was an-
nounced.

"We are all going over to the beach,"
said Belinda. "It's only ten miles over
there, but the sand is hard and smooth,
and we can wheel up and down the shore
till lunchtime, and we are going to have
a clam bake and ride back in the after-
noon."

That suited me exactly, excepting the
distance. I took John aside after break-
fast and asked him to get Belinda to wait
a little for me after the others had started.
I would make a little delay about getting
my wheel out. He laughed and winked
and said he would, and I went up to my
room.

When I looked out of the window,
though, I used strong language to myself,
for I saw the party start, and Belinda was
riding with young Hazard ahead of all the
rest. Evidently John had not been quick
enough to tell her, but there would be
plenty of chances later, and if she was to
ride with any one else but me it was well
that it should be a fellow like that, much
too young to think of marrying.

When I got my wheel to the front door,
I found Miss Uppington waiting for me,
and she positively blushed as she said,
"They were all in such a hurry to start,
Mr. Brown, that they have gone ahead, so
Brother John asked me to wait for you."

Something had gone wrong, but what it
was or why Miss Uppington should blush
I could not understand. However, I had
to be polite, and really she was a charming
woman, although no longer young, and I
said the proper thing as we prepared to
mount.

She got on